

# OKLAHOMA | WINGSPAN

Volume 2, Issue 4  
May 2005



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### May

5 Space Day

14-15 SLS

20-22 SAREX

### June

4-5 Pilot Clinic

11-12 Aerospace America

21-22 CN Training

19-26 Texas Cadet  
Encampment

### July

1-2 Tinker AFB  
Open House

5-8 Cadet Week  
Tinker AFB

8-10 SAREX

16 ICS 200

22-1 Aug IACE

23-30 New Mexico Cadet  
Encampment

30-6 Aug Arkansas Cadet  
Encampment

## COMMENTS FROM THE COMMANDER

**Col. Joe R. Smith**

The Oklahoma Wing welcomes Colonel Joe R. Smith as its new Wing Commander. He has been Chief of Staff since April 2002 and before that he was the Unit Commander of the Enid Composite Squadron from 1998 to 2002. He joined CAP in June 1997.

Colonel Smith is qualified as an Incident Commander, Mission Pilot and Observer. He is a Certified Flight Instructor and Instrument Instructor (CFII), with over 1,250

instructor hours and 3,800 total flying hours. He is qualified as a CAP Check Pilot, Mission Check Pilot, Instructor Pilot, Cadet Orientation Pilot, and Counter Narcotics Mission Pilot.

In his civilian job, Colonel Smith works for the Boeing Company as their Site Manager at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

Editors Note: Colonel Smith was unavailable for comments at press time.

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, ALL

**Col. Virginia Keller**

For the fabulous surprise party on Friday night of the Conference. I expected maybe thirty people or so, golfers and out-of-towners and could not believe the number of people that were arriving. It was a wonderful surprise, so good to see every one. Thank you for the gifts, the shadow box of all the squadron patches (I have been trying for years to collect,) and the special flag that had flown over the state capitol. The flowers were beautiful and to top it all the great cake! You shouldn't have but it was awfully nice of you.

CAP is one big family and it was a great family reunion.

At the General Assembly I spoke about the "peaks" we have experienced in the wing but I left out the most important thing I meant to say, so I want to say it now, all the good things that have happened in the Wing have been a result of the fantastic staff at Wing and the efforts of the members in the Squadrons, cadets and seniors.

I would be remiss also if I don't say a special "Thank You" to Lt Col Gary and all the cooperation and assistance he gave to me personally and to the Oklahoma Wing.

*Virginia Keller, Col CAP*



## OKLAHOMA WING CONFERENCE 2005

The Oklahoma Wing Conference was held at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills in Tulsa, Oklahoma on 22-24 April 2005. It was a weekend full of fun, educational seminars, and a great place to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances with one very good common bond, Civil Air Patrol.

During the morning opening session, Col. Keller recognized the following with awards:

### **Commander Commendations:**

Lt Col Phil Berchtold, Group 2 Commander and Communications

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kathryn Curtin, Pao - Wing Newsletter

Capt Jonathan A Fox Asst DO and Cadet Conference

Chaplain Lt Col Doug Hall, Wing Chaplain

Capt Larry Lees, Project Officer IACE

Lt Col Ralph D. Mavers, Group I commander

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Brenda Miles, Plans & Programs, Wing Conference

Maj. Debra Spencer, SAR/DR Eval Finance (Outstanding)

Capt. Sean Thompson Cadet Conference

Maj. Kelly Wardlaw Internal Aerospace

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Doug Young Asst. Cadet Programs, NCC

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Jeffery Zoellick Cadet Encampment Commander

### **Meritorious Service Award:**

Lt Col Bob Castle, Wing DO

Maj. William Fennell, Wing Mtce Officer more than 6 years

Capt Johnny Gonazales, Wing Cadet Programs

Lt Col Kacy Harsha, DDR Officer and Cadet Programs more than 6 years

Maj. Charles Newcomb, Mission PAO, SAR/DR Eval (Outstanding)

Lt Col Ronald Sandhop, Wing AE Officer more than six years

Lt Col Joe R. Smith Chief of Staff

Lt Col Paul Spencer, ES Officer, Alt. testing officer

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Kathey Suarez Wing Adm Assistant

Maj. Mark Weiser, 6 years including Chief of Staff, IG and Webpage

### **Exceptional Service:**

Lt Col Don Van Alstine more than six years, Vice Commander, Legislative Officer and Homeland Security, plus Director of four National Flight Academies

- Continued Page 3 -



## OKLAHOMA WING CONFERENCE 2005

*Continued from Page 2*

The highlight of the Oklahoma Wing Conference was the Annual Awards Banquet and Change of Command on Saturday night 23 April 2005.

The following awards were presented:

### **Brewer Awards:**

Cadet - Cadet/2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Dana Keller

Senior - Capt. Kathryn Curtin

Squadron - Flying Castle Composite Squadron

### **5 Gill Robb Wilsons**

Lt Col Rick Cacini

Lt Col Kacy Harsha

Lt Col Seldon "Bub" Mullins (not present to accept)

Maj. Elizabeth Windes

Maj. Joe Windes

**Wing Color Guard** - Cleveland County Composite Sqdn.

**Unit Citation** - Starbase Composite Squadron

**Squadron of Merit** - Flying Castle Composite Squadron

**Squadron of Year** - Council Oak Senior Squadron

**Squadron Commander of Year** - Capt Jim Harig

**Senior Member of Year** - Maj. Mark Norvell

**Wing Staff Member of Year** - Capt John Gonzales

**Cadet of Year** - C/Maj Rachel Leary

**Norm Edwards Memorial Award** - Lt Col Bob Castle

(There were several other awards that were not presented due to the absence of the recipient and they will be announced at a later date.)

Col Virginia P. Keller was given one last salute as Wing Commander and members present welcomed the new Oklahoma Wing Commander Lt. Col. Joe R. Smith with Change of Command and promotion to Colonel.





## OKLAHOMA WING GETS NEW C-182 NAV III

*With excerpts from National Press Release*

The Oklahoma Wing recently received a new Cessna C-182 NAV III aircraft equipped with the Garmin G1000 glass cockpit. Lt. Col Bob Castle and Lt. Col Aaron Wardlaw spent a week receiving specialized training at the factory in Independence, Kansas before bringing the aircraft back to Oklahoma. The aircraft will be based at Wiley Post until the engine break in period is complete. Primary checkouts will initially be with instructors and evaluators. Only members with a current C-182 form 5 will get an initial form 5 in the NAV III. There are still plans to be worked out and lots of instruction to be completed.

The NAV III is one of 40 Cessna 182s that CAP has ordered. "It's important for CAP to use the best that technology has to offer," said CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Dwight H. Wheless. "The Garmin system integrates the aircraft's primary flight, engine and sensor data and displays it on two full-color LCD screens in the cockpit. That gives the pilot greater situational awareness and makes him more effective -- and safer -- as he or she flies our CAP missions. Since the safety of our members is our number-one concern, we're especially enthusiastic about this new technology."

"The G1000 system includes fully-integrated navigational and communications equipment, according to CAP National Headquarters Executive Director Al Allenback, a retired Air Force fighter pilot." "Glass cockpits are the future," Mr. Allenback said. "Safety, reliability, and situational awareness are all enhanced. Personally, I prefer instrument flight with the glass cockpit because the cross-check and trend information are all presented on one multifunction display."

All of the new C-182's will also come equipped with the high-tech satellite-transmitted digital-imaging system which will let the crew take digital photos from the air and transmit them immediately via satellite phone and laptop to personnel on the ground.

The Oklahoma Wing is proud to accept this incredible aircraft and to be able to provide its members with the latest in technology in order for them to continue to "perform missions for America".



## ALERT – FRAUDULENT SOLICITATION

There have been reports that a telephone solicitor has been contacting CAP members asking for donations to support Civil Air Patrol. In a notice received from Melanie LeMay, Public Relations Manager National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol, she advises that **"THIS IS NOT A LEGITIMATE FUNDRAISING EFFORT"** and stated the following:

"Caution all CAP members that any efforts to solicit donations for Civil Air Patrol by phone are not authorized. If any members

receive such calls, they should not respond in any way".

"Please also take this opportunity to stress that CAP members should never divulge personal financial information, including bank account, credit card, or Social Security information, to any telephone solicitor unless they have established beyond question that the solicitation is legitimate".

"We will continue to monitor and investigate this situation and update you on any additional information".



**TINKER STAR SPANGLED SALUTE***Provided by Capt. Russell M. Davis*

This year, there appears to be no Aerospace America Air Show. Don't despair. Tinker Air Force Base is offering up an Air Show of their own. On 2 July, the United States Air Force Thunderbirds are performing (along with a whole lot of other aerial acts) at Tinker Air Force Base.

Tinker has asked for CAP's help again this year. We won't be working the coke trailers or hauling ice. We will be helping Tinker's Security Forces. Manning the flight line. Actually getting to watch the air show, the musical acts and the fire works. In addition, we get to have two of our aircraft as close to the Thunderbird's aircraft as we possibly can. We will have tables next to our aircraft for recruiting.

Tinker has asked us to help set up for the Air Show starting on 1 July. I am working on getting us a place to sleep for the evening of the 1st, and the 2nd. That way, we can help tear down stuff on the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Since the Thunderbirds will practice their entire part of the show on the 1st, I suspect there will be some opportunities for the cadets to mingle with their crews, and possible get some face time with the F-16's afterward.

I don't need a participation letter at this time, but it would be helpful if you could give me some numbers (how many cadets, how many seniors) on a preliminary basis. That will help Tinker plan.

Russell M. Davis, Captain  
 russellmdavis@earthlink.net  
 Project Officer  
 Tinker Star Spangled Salute 2005  
 Oklahoma Wing Civil Air Patrol

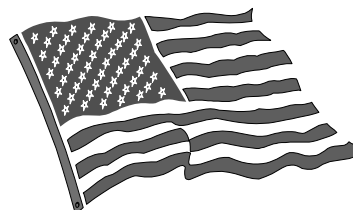
**TINKER MASS CASUALTY EXERCISE***Provided by Capt. Russell M. Davis*

On 3 June, Tinker is holding an exercise. For this exercise, they are asking for our help. They need cadets to be victims of a disaster. This means that the victims need to wear clothes that their parents would not mind having ruined by the makeup and "goo" that will applied to make them look really injured.

They also need folks to do regular CAP stuff like: Render aid, Secure a scene, and Crowd Control. The exercise will start (that means we need to be in position with whatever "goo" or gear) by 07:00. We should be done by 12:00.

I am working on getting us a place to sleep for the evening of the 2nd. That way we will be close by to start bright and early on time. I don't need a participation letter at this time, but it would be helpful if you could give me some numbers (how many cadets, how many seniors) on a preliminary basis. That will help Tinker plan.

Russell M. Davis, Captain  
 russellmdavis@earthlink.net  
 Project Officer  
 Tinker Mass Casualty Exercise 2005  
 Oklahoma Wing Civil Air Patrol





# BASIC EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER COURSE

*Excerpts from release*

A "Basic Emergency Public Information Officer," course will be offered free of charge by the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM) on June 20-22 at the Tulsa Fire Training Center in Tulsa.

This course is designed for both the novice and experienced public relations or public information person who is looking for training in crisis communication. There is a focus on writing emergency information news releases, developing and implementing public awareness campaigns about hazards and providing public education about community response. Also included are tips and practice for the preparation and execution of presentations to diverse groups.

The course is recommended for anyone who is responsible for arranging media interviews in a crisis and releasing emergency information. It is especially recommended for those with a direct responsibility as spokesperson for an organization during a crisis.

The course is accredited by CLEET and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute. It is part of a series of classes offered by OEM

To find out more, contact OEM Public Information Manager Michelann Ooten at (405) 521-2481 or Registration deadline is Monday, June 6.



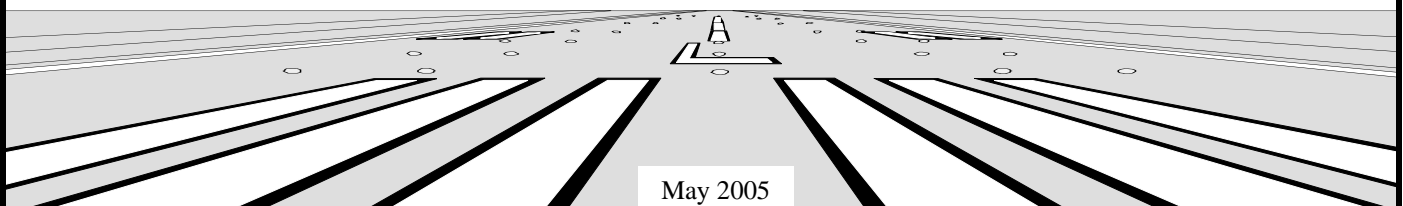
## SAFETY PLEDGE ~ WORTH REPEATING

**"As a Civil Air Patrol member, I pledge to promote an uncompromising safety environment for myself and others, and to prevent the loss of, or damage to Civil Air Patrol assets entrusted to me. I will perform all my activities in a professional and safe manner, and will hold myself accountable for my actions in all of our missions for America."**

*The OKLAHOMA WINGSPAN is the official newsletter of the Oklahoma Wing of Civil Air Patrol and is published by Public Affairs Officer Capt. Kathy Curtin.*

*Deadline for submission of articles is 25th of each month and newsletters will distributed at the monthly Wing Staff Meeting. Items will be approved by the Wing Commander and printed according to importance, timeliness, and available space. Articles submitted are printed "As-Is" and the Public Affairs Officer assumes no responsibility for correctness, punctuation, and grammar.*

*Comments or articles can be submitted to the attention of OK WINGSPAN at [OkHorseFly@aol.com](mailto:OkHorseFly@aol.com).*



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